

Application No. 09/996,951

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In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-20, and append new claims 21-26 as follows:

- 1 21. (new) A method of achieving a resonant frequency of acoustic
2 resonators comprising:
3 fabricating a plurality of said acoustic resonators on a basis of
4 forming each said acoustic resonator to include an electrode-piezoelectric
5 stack in which layer dimensions are selected to achieve an intended
6 operational resonant frequency, said intended operational resonant
7 frequency being a target final operational resonant frequency, each said
8 electrode-piezoelectric stack having conductive electrode layers;
9 determining whether said acoustic resonators have current
10 resonant frequencies that are within an acceptable margin of error of said
11 intended operational resonant frequency; and
12 for occasions in which said current resonant frequencies are
13 outside of said acceptable margin of error, exposing said acoustic resonators
14 to a controlled gaseous environment in which at least one said electrode layer
15 is oxidized, including intentionally regulating said controlled gaseous
16 environment on a basis of providing each said acoustic resonator with a final
17 operational resonant frequency that is within said margin of error of said
18 intended operational resonant frequency.
- 1 22. (new) The method of claim 21 wherein said exposing includes controlling
2 temperature and controlling oxygen content within said controlled gaseous
3 environment based on establishing said final operational resonant frequencies
4 within said margin of error of said intended operational resonant frequency.
- 1 23. (new) The method of claim 21 wherein said exposing includes regulating
2 said temperature and oxygen content to provide a downward adjustment of
3 said resonant frequencies in a controlled manner.

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1 24. (new) The method of claim 23 wherein said exposing further includes
2 controlling flow rates of gases, including oxygen.

1 25. (new) The method of claim 24 wherein said exposing occurs within a
2 Rapid Thermal Annealer (RTA).

1 26. (new) The method of claim 21 wherein said exposing occurs at a
2 temperature not exceeding 215°C.

COMPLETE LISTING OF CLAIMS IN THE PATENT APPLICATION

1-20. Cancelled.

1 21. (new) A method of achieving a resonant frequency of acoustic
2 resonators comprising:
3 fabricating a plurality of said acoustic resonators on a basis of
4 forming each said acoustic resonator to include an electrode-piezoelectric
5 stack in which layer dimensions are selected to achieve an intended
6 operational resonant frequency, said intended operational resonant
7 frequency being a target final operational resonant frequency, each said
8 electrode-piezoelectric stack having conductive electrode layers;
9 determining whether said acoustic resonators have current
10 resonant frequencies that are within an acceptable margin of error of said
11 intended operational resonant frequency; and
12 for occasions in which said current resonant frequencies are
13 outside of said acceptable margin of error, exposing said acoustic resonators
14 to a controlled gaseous environment in which at least one said electrode layer
15 is oxidized, including intentionally regulating said controlled gaseous
16 environment on a basis of providing each said acoustic resonator with a final
17 operational resonant frequency that is within said margin of error of said
18 intended operational resonant frequency.

1 22. (new) The method of claim 21 wherein said exposing includes controlling
2 temperature and controlling oxygen content within said controlled gaseous
3 environment based on establishing said final operational resonant frequencies
4 within said margin of error of said intended operational resonant frequency.

1 23. (new) The method of claim 21 wherein said exposing includes regulating
2 said temperature and oxygen content to provide a downward adjustment of
3 said resonant frequencies in a controlled manner.

1 24. (new) The method of claim 23 wherein said exposing further includes
2 controlling flow rates of gases, including oxygen.

1 25. (new) The method of claim 24 wherein said exposing occurs within a
2 Rapid Thermal Annealer (RTA).

1 26. (new) The method of claim 21 wherein said exposing occurs at a
2 temperature not exceeding 215°C.

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